

## Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

OMB-01 AID-20 OPR-02 IO-13 RSR-01 /118 W

----- 117821

R 020800Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7414

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY KABUL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KARACHI 1355

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PK

SUBJECT: DISTURBANCES IN KARACHI WIND DOWN

REF: KARACHI 1328; 1335

1. JULY 31 PASSED WITHOUT RECURRENCE OF DISTURBANCES OF PREVIOUS THREE DAYS. POLICE CONTINUED ROUND-UP OF THOSE SUSPECTED OF INVOLVEMENT IN EARLIER INCIDENTS AND TOOK 40 INTO CUSTODY. AUGUST 1 WAS SIMILARLY UNDISTURBED WITH POLICE ACTIVELY PATROLLING TROUBLED SPOTS IN FORCE. MORNING AUGUST 2 POLICE STILL PRESENT IN AREA IN FORCE, BUT VEHICULAR TRAFFIC MOVING NORMALLY IN INCREASED VOLUME AND MORE SHOPS REOPENED.

2. SIND CHIEF MINISTER BHUTTO IN JULY 31 AFTERNOON PRESS CONFERENCE REVERSED TENOR OF HIS JULY 29 PUBLIC STATEMENT CRITICAL OF KARACHI AND LIAQUATABAD RESIDENTS (KARACHI 1328) AND LAUDED KARACHI POPULACE AS HARD-WORKING, EDUCATED, POLITICALLY-CONSCIOUS, PROGRESSIVE AND SENSITIVE. PEOPLE OF LIAQUATABAD PRAISED FOR RESPONDING TO ADMINISTRATION'S CALL FOR ABANDONMENT

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OF LAWLESSNESS AND RESTORATION OF NORMAL CONDITIONS.

CHIEF MINISTER SAID GOVERNMENT WOULD INSTITUTE OFFICIAL INQUIRY INTO DISTURBANCES AND WHILE UNDERTAKING GRANT EARLY RELEASE OF THOSE DETAINED SUNDAY AND MONDAY SAID MORE ARRESTS LIKELY. MUMTAZ ALSO EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS APOLOGIZE TO THOSE WHOM ANY PART OF HIS EARLIER STATEMENT MIGHT HAVE OFFENDED. HOWEVER, HE WENT ON TO SAY THIS OFFER TO APOLOGIZE RESULT OF HIS RESPECT FOR WISHES OF PEOPLE NOT BECAUSE OF DEMAND FOR SUCH AN APOLOGY MADE BY "CONGENITAL IDIOT" ASGHAR KHAN IN HIS JULY 30 FIVE-POINT DEMAND FOR RETRIEVING SITUATION (KARACHI 1335). MUMTAZ PRAISED PPP WORKERS AS BEING DEVOTED TO PARTY AND CRITICIZED OPPOSITION POLITICIANS FOR FILLING PUBLIC MIND WITH ENDORSEMENTS OF VIOLENCE.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH POLICE STILL IN EVIDENCE IN DISTURBED AREAS MORNING AUGUST 2, WINDING-DOWN PROCESS WHICH COMMENCED JULY 30 EXPECTED TO CONTINUE. APPEARS DISTURBANCES HAVE RESULTED IN NO MEASURABLE GAIN OR LOSS FOR OPPOSITION OR ADMINISTRATION. CHIEF MINISTER IN HIS JULY 31 PRESS CONFERENCE, WHILE HARSH ON ASGHAR AND POLITICAL OPPOSITION, ABANDONED UNDILUTED HARD-LINE APPROACH AND ADDRESSED GENERAL PUBLIC IN MODERATE, CONCILIATORY TONE. MODERATE APPROACH LIKELY TO PREVAIL AS LONG AS TRANQUILITY DOES, BUT SUDDEN REVERSAL TO HARD-LINE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISING IF DISTURBANCES WOULD RECUR IN KARACHI OR ELSEWHERE IN SIND PROVINCE.  
TIGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL DISORDERS  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Subject:** DISTURBANCES IN KARACHI WIND DOWN  
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